ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: ALF-81 N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE re Application of: Axel Frohwein Examiner: Michalsky, G. Serial No.: 10/651,077 Art Unit: 3753 Filed: August 27, 2003 Our Customer ID: 22827 Confirmation No.: 7269 Our Account No. 04-1403

PROPOSED AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Mail Stop - Amendment Commissioner of Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Valve Assembly"

Title: "Weldring with Locking Arrangement for

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of May 9, 2005, Applicant proposes amending the above-captioned application as set forth below and respectfully requests consideration of the remarks that follow.